

to whom it may concern;

i recently received a email from xmradio concerning possible legislation of possible elimination of traffic and weather updates among the large metropolitan areas of this country. this is very discouraging to me. if this legislation is allowed to be pushed through Congress without a fight from subscribers of satellite radio, we will have lost a powerful tool for loosening traffic log jams throughout these large city areas.

as a professional truck driver and a subscriber of satellite radio, i can tell you from personal experience that my company sends me into large cities on a regular basis. as a result, i need to hear about traffic and weather so i can do a preplan for routing purposes. this information, therefore, allows me to avoid potential trouble areas such as the downtown areas of Chicago, New York City, Washington D.C., etc. with the population increasing expotentially every time we conduct a census, the roads can no longer handle the increased traffic flow. road construction is slow at best and as soon as the construction is finished, the road is already outdated.

professional truck drivers operating large combination vehicles have increased their own population over the years. it has been estimated that this population is in the hundreds of thousands of trucks, and show no signs of letting up. with the economy recovering, the level of freight being moved across the United States will only increase as we move into the summer months. the information provided by satellite radio is, therefore, invaluable for truck drivers. one of the most important aspects of truck driving is being on time for pickup appointments as well being on time for all delivery appointments. if drivers do not have traffic and weather information, then they will be late for all pickups and deliveries. this translates into lost productivity, which then affects the economy as a whole. also, dirivers are forced to push the envelope once they realize the delivery or pickup will be late. this causes traffic accidents which causes more delays for others to get to their own workplace. simply put this is a cause and effect relationship.

finally, satellite radio should be able to transmit the traffic and weather information to their subscribers because of all the above reasons. here's another one: There are no commercial interruptions.